

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

It Isn't Over When the Rains Stop...

Partnering to Protect Public Health in the
Coffeyville, KS Flood and Oil Spill Response



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ATSDR
Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry

Acknowledgments

- ❖ **LCDR Jill Shugart**
 - ❖ **Region 7 Regional Representative**
- ❖ **Rich Nickle**
 - ❖ **ATSDR Headquarters, Emergency Response Team**



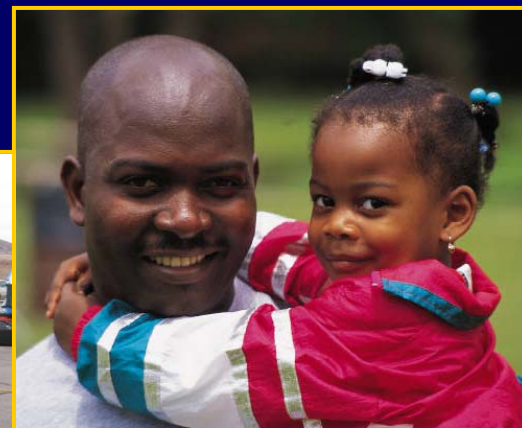
Overview

- ❖ Who is ATSDR?
- ❖ ATSDR Roles and Activities in the Coffeyville Flood and Oil Spill Response
- ❖ ATSDR Partnerships formed to address public health issues



Who is ATSDR?

- ❖ **ATSDR is a federal public health agency**
 - ❖ **Part of Department of Health and Human Services**
 - ❖ **Created under the Superfund Act**



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What Does ATSDR Do?

- ❖ Activities include:
 - ❖ site specific response
 - ❖ public health advice in emergency response events
 - ❖ public health support for Brownfield/Land Reuse sites
- ❖ Advance the science of site-specific issues
- ❖ Share experiences, lessons learned, and emerging public issues among the state partners and broader interested audience in the regions



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Coffeyville Flood and Oil Spill



❖ 6/26 – 6/30

- ❖ Verdigris River floods
- ❖ Coffeyville Resources Refinery oil spill occurs

❖ 7/1

- ❖ EPA responds to oil spill

❖ 7/2

- ❖ EPA opens Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- ❖ ATSDR staff deployed to EPA EOC
- ❖ EPA opened Mobile Command Posts
- ❖ Presidential disaster declaration



ATSDR's Role in Response

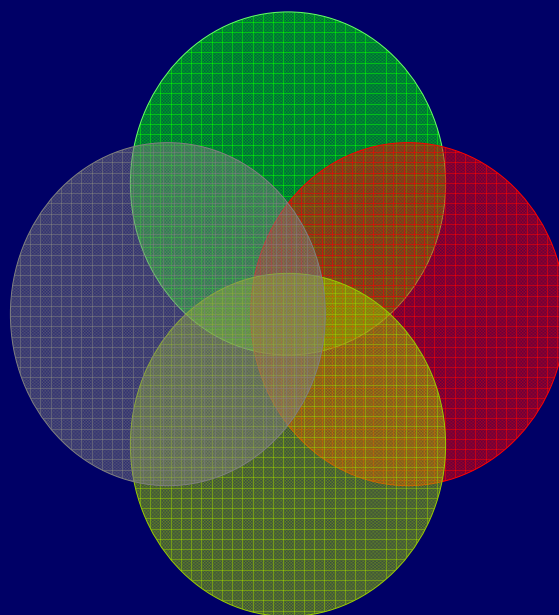
- ❖ Provide public health information to people in flooded areas
- ❖ Review environmental data
- ❖ Review screening levels proposed by EPA and States
- ❖ Answer health-related questions



Partnerships

County Health Department/Community

EPA/ KDHE



ATSDR

FEMA/Coast Guard/Other Responders



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Initial ATSDR and EPA Public Health Information Response

❖ Media

❖ Press releases

- ❖ Fecal coliform
Environmental data
- ❖ Oil contamination
- ❖ Personal protective
equipment (PPE)

❖ Public Service Announcements

- ❖ CDC
- ❖ EPA

❖ Fliers

Environmental News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Kansas City, Kan., July 2, 2007)
– The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency mobilized two On-Scene Coordinators to Coffeyville, Kan. in the early morning of July 1, 2007, to respond to an oil spill caused by major flooding in the area. The OSCs have collected air and water samples.





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Public Service Announcements

- ❖ **Staying Safe Around Buildings Damaged After a Disaster**
- ❖ **What to Do If your Appliances Are Wet After a Disaster**
- ❖ **Avoiding Carbon Monoxide Poisoning During a Power Outage**
- ❖ **Preventing Mold After a Disaster**
- ❖ **Hand washing After a Disaster**


ATSDR and EPA “Return Home Safely” flier




Return Home Safely!

Safety Recommendations for Returning to
Your Home after a Flood


Follow local authority's directions when preparing to return home. Do not return home until local authorities tell you it is OK to re-enter your property. If you have questions call 1-800-223-0425 in Kansas.


 Do not enter homes and buildings until you are sure there is no structural damage.

Remove mold and debris from your home or building before allowing children, older adults, pregnant women, persons who are sick, and pets to reenter.

 Turn the power off before entering a flooded home or building. Never turn power off or on if you are standing in water.

If you smell gas, or hear the sound of escaping gas, leave the building immediately. Do not use cell phones, matches, lighters, or electrical equipment inside the building. Call emergency officials for help and wait for clearance before reentering.

 Open all windows and doors as soon as you enter the building. Then exit the building and do not reenter until it has aired out for 30 minutes.

 Gas generators and pressure washers give off deadly gases you cannot smell or see. NEVER operate gas generators or pressure washers inside a house, garage or other enclosed areas; or near doors,

CDC Flood Fliers

❖ CDC Fliers

- ❖ Water
- ❖ Carbon monoxide
- ❖ Mold
- ❖ Food safety
- ❖ Hygiene
- ❖ Heat stress
- ❖ Cleaning
- ❖ Chemical disposal
- ❖ Electrical hazards



ATSDR On-Site Deployment

❖ 7/7

❖ ATSDR
deployment to
EPA Mobile
Command Post

❖ On-Site
Partnerships

❖ FEMA
❖ Coast Guard
❖ National Guard
❖ Other
responders



Risk Communication Partnerships

Return Home Safely!



Safety Recommendations for
Returning to Your Home after a Flood

- ❖ **ATSDR, EPA, KDHE, County Health Department, and National Guard distribution of health information packets**
 - ❖ **Community meetings**
 - ❖ **FEMA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)**
 - ❖ **County Health Officer**
 - ❖ **Senior Citizen's Center**
 - ❖ **Shelters**



| | | | |
|---|--|---|------------|
|  | | <h1>STAY SAFE!</h1> | |
| | | ×YES | ✓NO |
| Water  | Drink only bottled or boiled water. | Don't use tap water for drinking, bathing or cleaning until local authorities say it is safe. | |
| Food  | Eat only freshly bought and canned food. | Don't eat anything else. | |
| Hygiene  | Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer, especially before eating. | Avoid contact with floodwater and wear gloves when removing debris. | |
| Heat  | Wear light clothing, drink bottled water and stay in the shade. | Don't overwork yourself. Take frequent breaks. Watch for heavy sweating, dizziness and dry mouth. | |
| Generators  | Use outside only, at least 20 feet from your house. | Don't use inside your house, on your deck or near air conditioner and vents. | |
| Animals & Insects  | Use insect repellent, clean bites well, seek care and report animal bites. | Don't approach domestic or wild animals that may bite if scared or injured. | |

ATSDR and KDHE

“Stay Safe” poster



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Community Partnerships

- ❖ **Community leaders**
 - ❖ Helped develop health messages
- ❖ **Meetings to discuss health concerns**
 - ❖ Chamber of Commerce
 - ❖ Public utility workers
- ❖ **Public meetings**
 - ❖ Coffeyville
 - ❖ Independence



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Returning Home Safely



By Nick Wright, The Independence Daily Reporter/AP

- ❖ **Multi-organization survey of flooded area for health and safety issues**
- ❖ **Prevent**
 - ❖ exposure to oil and mold
 - ❖ injury when returning home
- ❖ **Partnership with KDHE and Incident Command System (ICS)**
 - ❖ **Get and distribute PPE to residents**



Public Health Meetings

❖ Presentation

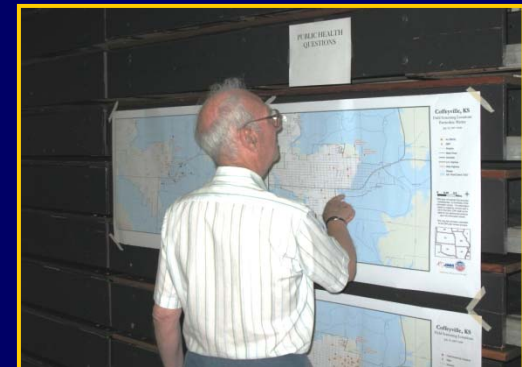
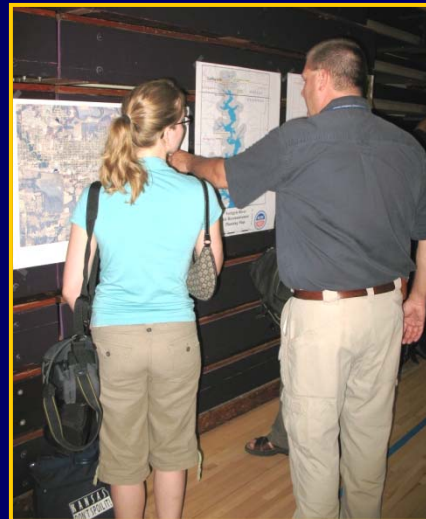
- ❖ KDHE

- ❖ Mayor and City Manager

❖ Public Availability Session

- ❖ County Health Department, City, KDHE, ATSDR, EPA, FEMA

- ❖ Talking to people one-on-one



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Residential Property Environmental Data Review



❖ Data Review and Interpretation

- ❖ ATSDR, EPA and KDHE. Oklahoma Department of Health
- ❖ Do contaminants pose a health hazard?
- ❖ Report with conclusions and recommendations



Environmental Clean up Criteria

- ❖ Provided health-based screening values
- ❖ Reviewed proposed values
- ❖ Concurrence



Photo courtesy of the O'Briens Group

Vector Control Issues



- ❖ **Vector control issues**
 - ❖ **West Nile Virus**

Benefits of Partnerships

- ❖ **Development of Joint Public Health Response plan**
 - ❖ **Get information out quickly**
 - ❖ **Avoid mixed messages**
 - ❖ **Coordination between Agencies/Regions**
 - ❖ **Avoid duplication of efforts**
 - ❖ **Implement plan in orderly manner**
- ❖ **Consensus on cleanup action levels**



For more information



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